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TWO OLD LETTERS.

Copies of two letters written by John Reynolds, the fourth Governor of the State of Illinois, and the author of a number of books and political articles. Among the more important of Governor Reynolds' books, are his two histories of Illinois: "A Pioneer History of Illinois"; and "A History of My Own Times." The originals of the following two letters are in the Illinois State Historical Library. These letters were written before the days of envelopes or postage stamps, and were simply folded and sealed with a wafer.

BOTH LETTERS ADDRESSED TO MR. BASILE MENEGLE,
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA.

Clear Lake 20th November 1828.

My young friend,—

We received your letter, and are well pleased to hear of your safe return home. Your money concerns appear to do well, we are happy to know the same.

We are now in good health. Rene has been sick all fall; but is now well. Adeline has been very healthy since you left here. W. N. Boismenue and family are well. Your brother John and Joseph Boismenue arrived from the mines yesterday. they are in health. so was your brother Louis. he staid at the mines—Bapt. Boismenue and Louis Nail remained there. The last two made nothing as I hear of. All the others have done well. Louis Boismenue did not go to the mines this fall. he and family are well.

It is a painful duty to inform you; that Joseph Tremble's wife died of an inflammation of the brains about the first of this month. her husband, Nicholas B. and all her friends were, and are, in much trouble for her death. She was buried in good stile. Three Doctors attended her, but all would not do.

On the 31st October my brother James died at the Piasee in Greene County of an attack of the liver. We must all submit to death. All your friends, and relatives, as far as I hear, are in health. The country has not been sickly.

The sale of Jos. A. Beard's property takes place this day. Scipio alone has administered on the estate. Jackson gained the day in all the western states. about six thousand votes he had majority in this State.—Much the Same in Missouri and Indiana. Ohio and Kentucky joined the republicans for old Jackson, so it is said Adams will not git a vote on the west of the mountains. I fear your State will do wrong, but Jackson is President with or without Louisiana. God bless him. he heads the republicans.

Anderson Beard got elected the second time very easy and got his commission.

I start next week for Vandalia. It is very uncertain who will be Senator. There must be a Jackson Senator.

Doctor Haydon did not die; but was very near. he is yet at Squire Trotier's.

Trotier is yet single, and is going on in the old way. he is about finishing his road near the Illinois Town.—

I cannot inform you any thing about what N. Boismenue is going to do about the house. nothing is done yet. I have offered to do the business to git an order of court to sell, but nothing has been done.

Your sister was at Jos. Tremble's at school when her cousin died. She is at Madam Jean's at this time going to school. She has been generally healthy. She is now at School.

We were lonesome when you started. when it would be your interest to visit this State again, it would be a pleasure for us all to see you— we all join in our good wishes for your prosperity.

John Reynolds.

Mr. B. Menegle.

Cahokia 25th Feby. 1829.

Dear sir

We recd. your letter and it gave us much pleasure to hear from you, that you were doing well. It seems it is good place to make money, and you are not idle in the business— It appears, that negroes and horses are dear there.—we all wish you good luck in your affairs.—

Your brother John is married to Miss Marleau the Sister of young August Trotier's wife. They and your Sister (Enfant) are going to the mines in the next month. Joseph Boismenue is likewise going. I can say to you; that all your relations here are in good health. Niél. Boismenue is fat. There died many people in the county below this winter—Will is dead, so is one of your cousins, the daughter of John Bodeux called Catherine— Palmier's child is dead—This bottom is sickly. I will leave it soon as I can. we are all in good health now, except wife, who has been very sick. She is on the mend, and out of danger—She is Salivated and Blistered nearly to death. Adeline is fat and red and in fine health. Rene is in tolerable health. I hear that Louis Boismenue is not going to the mines—we had a letter from Baptist B. at the mines—they all there are well. I do not know if your brother Louis is coming down or not—John Menegle is to stay there for two years: or I suppose, until his wife wants to see her mother.

I conversed with your brother John about the house matter in St. Louis—he is willing to aid you in the matter by loaning money. the longer this sale is postponed the house will be the dearer— Collins offered \$2600 for it. you had better come up, or write, about this business this Spring. you can come quick and without much expense—we would be glad to see you here.—Jos. Trotier is not married yet.—We all unite in presenting you with our compliments.

John Reynolds

Mr. B. Menegle

P. S. St. Louis is healthy, and the best place in the western country for a trade. It is growing fast. The fur and lead trade keep it. Property in it would be valuable. I think you would do well to look to it for a future residence. I can not as I am out for Governor. I think my case is sure. The common people say I am their man. The ——— is not for 15 or 18 months.